

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

(By Delegate T. Campbell)

[Introduced January 12, 2011; referred to the
Committee on Constitutional Revision then the
Judiciary.]

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the State of West
Virginia, amending section twenty-two, article VI thereof,
relating to requiring the Legislature to adopt a biennial
budget and alternating the length of legislative sessions
every other year from sixty-day sessions to thirty-day
sessions; numbering and designating such proposed amendment;
and providing a summarized statement of the purpose of such
proposed amendment.

*Resolved by the Legislature of West Virginia, two thirds of
the members elected to each house agreeing thereto:*

That the question of ratification or rejection of an amendment
to the Constitution of the State of West Virginia be submitted to
the voters of the state at the next general election to be held in
the year 2012, which proposed amendment is that section twenty-two,
article VI thereof be amended to read as follows:

1 **ARTICLE VI. THE LEGISLATURE.**

2 **§22. Length of Legislative Session; Biennial budget.**

3 The regular session of the Legislature held in the year 1973
4 and every fourth year thereafter shall, in addition to the meeting
5 days preceding the adjournment provided for in section eighteen of
6 this article, not exceed sixty calendar days computed from and
7 including the second Wednesday of February, and the regular session
8 held in all other years ~~shall~~ may not exceed sixty calendar days
9 computed from and including the second Wednesday of January. Any
10 regular session may be extended by a concurrent resolution adopted
11 by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house
12 determined by yeas and nays and entered on the journals.

13 Beginning with the fiscal year 2012 and every two years
14 thereafter, the Legislature shall hold a sixty-day session in
15 accordance with this section to adopt a biennial budget. Beginning
16 with the fiscal year 2013 and every two years thereafter, the
17 Legislature shall hold a thirty-day session to consider budget
18 revisions and other legislation.

19 *Resolved further,* That in accordance with the provisions of
20 article eleven, chapter three of the Code of West Virginia, 1931,
21 as amended, the proposed amendment is hereby numbered "Amendment
22 No. 1" and designated as the "Biennial Budget Amendment" and the
23 purpose of the proposed amendment is summarized as follows: "In an
24 effort to save precious state resources by better managing and

1 allocating those resources, and to better enable legislators to
2 maintain contact with constituents, perform jobs and family
3 obligations, the Legislature shall adopt a biennial budget every
4 two years during a sixty day session, and alternate with a thirty
5 day session to consider budget revisions and other legislation."

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to require the Legislature to adopt a biennial budget and alternating the length of legislative sessions every other year from sixty-day sessions to thirty-day sessions.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from the present law, and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.